

In the Specification

Please amend the Specification at page 4, ¶ 3 to read:

This inwardly tapered surface of the platform 34 of the male coupling means serves to directly support the appliance 38 by frictional engagement with the interior surface of the downwardly extending tapered skirt portion 39 of the dental appliance above and below a retention device, such as an O-ring 41 removably secured to the overdenture or female half 38 of the coupling. The O-ring 41 is inserted in a groove 40 circumferentially formed in the female half of the coupling and a corresponding circumferential groove 42 in the appliance (e.g., a cap or overdenture) or female half of the coupling 38.

Please amend the Specification at page 4 ¶ 4 to read:

In FIG. 2, an implant abutment attachment is generally indicated at 26', and has a metal shaft 28' which is threaded through the implant abutment attachment 26' and received in a threaded bore 30' formed in a dental implant 32'. An inwardly tapered surface on the exterior of platform 34' is carried on top of shaft 28' which frictionally mates with and supports the downwardly tapering skirt 39' on the female half 38' of a coupling means or dental appliance. As with the overdenture attachment in FIG. 1, a gingival cuff of variable height is provided. As in the overdenture of FIG. 1, the implant abutment attachment 26' has an inward taper extending upwardly to guide and support the cap or dental appliance or female half of the coupling 38' into a coupling relationship. Again, the retention for the appliance is provided by an O-ring coupling member 41' inserted between a circumferential groove 40' formed on top of metal shaft 28' and a retentive undercut or circumferential groove 42' in the cap or appliance 38'.

In the Claims:

✓ Please cancel claim 9 and amend claims 1, 5-7 and 10 as follows: